

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 309539
ORIGIN EUR-12

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DRAFTED BY EUR;SOV;MLEVITSKY:REH
APPROVED BY EUR;SOV;RLBARRY
OC/P - MR. FENSTERMACHER
EUR/CE - RBCASAGRANDE
L - JWILLIS

----- 100167 /71L

P R 222324Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 309539

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: BUKOVSKY/CORVALAN EXCHANGE

REF: BERN 5781

1. PLEASE INFORM MRS. BUKOVSKY THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO BE HELPFUL REGARDING RETRIEVAL OF HER BOOKS, BUT ARE UNABLE TO IN THIS CASE. TO SHIP HER BOOKS VIA DIPLOMATIC POUCH WOULD VIOLATE ARTICLE 27, PARA 4, OF VIENNA CONVENTION, AS WELL AS OUR OWN POUCH REGULATIONS. IT WOULD ALSO PUT US IN POSITION OF CIRCUMVENTING SOVIET CUSTOMS LAWS CONCERNING EXPORT OF ANTIQUITIES. MOREOVER, WE BELIEVE SUCH ACTION COULD PLACE BAKHMIN IN DIFFICULT POSITION OF COLLABORATING WITH EMBASSY MOSCOW IN VIOLATING SOVIET LAWS.

2. SINCE OTHER DISSIDENTS WHO HAVE EMIGRATED HAVE HAD
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THEIR EFFECTS SHIPPED TO THEM FROM SOVIET UNION, WE SUGGEST THAT MRS. BUKOVSKY SEND BAKHMIN LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION SO THAT HE CAN ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE SHIPMENT OF BOOKS IN NORMAL WAY. FOR THIS PURPOSE IT WOULD SEEM DESIRABLE THAT HE RECEIVE LETTER THROUGH INTERNATIONAL MAIL (WITH POSTMARK) SO THAT LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION CANNOT BE QUESTIONED.

EMBASSY BERN MAY ACCEPT COPY OF LETTER FOR TRANSMITTAL IN

POUCH TO EMBASSY MOSCOW, FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION AND IN
CASE THERE IS ANY WAY EMBASSY CAN BE HELPFUL IN FUTURE.
ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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